

Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
October 16, 2012
Ada McKinley Apartments – 661 E. 69th St.

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Cheryl Johnson	<p>I would like to address Mr. Woodyard. I read a couple of articles – you mentioned that you were concerned about Altgeld. Isolation can be good if we were like we were 50 years ago. The murder you spoke of did not happen in Altgeld. I read your letter to the Mayor. My mother has a personal relationship with the Mayor. Your response was like telling me that my people cannot participate. My organization was founded by my mother 30 years ago. We were honored by Clinton and as a top environmental organization by Bush. The current President used to sit at my Mother's table. I don't think you should demolish a place with so much history or where our President has been. Are you telling me today that my organization (People for Community Recovery) cannot participate in our own community?</p>	<p>The CHA is looking to improve the Altgeld community into one that is economically diverse with quality housing, retail, jobs and community space so that residents are provided opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency. The CHA is excited to get the planning process underway and work with the residents of Altgeld and their neighbors throughout this process.</p>
2	Francine Washington	<p>1) We met with HUD a month ago and they implied we should give CHA a quarterly report. I want to talk about 2.0. We were talking about these contracts you just passed. The stakeholders have a bigger stake than one agency.</p> <p>2) Are you working on refining the one-strike policy?</p> <p>3) The waitlist opened in 2008 and 2009. We are taking people off the waitlist now. Where do those people stand on the waitlist from 3 years ago?</p> <p>4) We are still waiting on the washers and dryers at Park Boulevard. How long must they wait?</p>	<p>1) Your comment has been received.</p> <p>2) The CHA abides by all HUD rules and regulations with respect to lease terminations, however, is evaluating this policy.</p> <p>3) CHA continues to facilitate lease up activity through the management and maintenance of the public housing wait lists. In FY2011, 20,290 applicants from all public housing wait lists were referred to properties to undergo screening for a unit.</p> <p>4) The developer anticipates receiving delivery of the washers and dryers at Park Boulevard for the CHA units at 3506 S. State (3rd and 4th floors) by the end of November. Assuming this timeframe is met, installation will begin thereafter.</p>

3	Mary Baldwin	<p>1) To this beautiful panel sitting here, I heard you say today is Boss' Day. Today is Boss Day and also breast cancer month. If you don't have anything pink, get something for the remainder of the month. I'm sure cancer has touched everyone in the U.S.</p> <p>2) A couple of months ago I came to talk about the residents in Rockwell no longer paying for washers and dryers. When I found out that was true, they called me and thanked me. The residents have confidence now that you will do what we ask of you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.</p>	Thank you for your comment.
4	Beatrice Jones	<p>I have been a resident of this building for 12 or 13 years. It has been a pleasure. We are glad you are here today and that you have good things planned for CHA residents. A community is only as strong as its leadership. We have good leadership. I have no complaints. Our manager, clerk, LAC president, and building president – I want to thank them for doing a wonderful job. If we have problems, issues, or concerns they are on hand to take care of them. They are senior friendly which is very important.</p>	Thank you for your comment.
5	Karen Webster	<p>I work for the service employees union local 73. I am a representative for employees at CHA and CVR. Negotiations have gone on for over a year now. They were stalled with the last administration. CHA's negotiation team remained in place with the new administration. We have made repeated attempts to reach out to the new leadership. There is a lack of communication between the leadership and the union. It is creating unrest and uncertainty in the workplace. This is similar with the unrest we have seen with CPS and the subsequent teacher strike. CHA's mission cannot be separated from a responsibility to the CHA employees that allow you to achieve that mission. CHA cannot demand that employees give up their bargaining rights. CHA cannot stick its head in the sand when contractors like CVR violate workers' rights. Certain facts have not been brought to Charles Woodyard's attention. CHA and CVR workers are standing together. We would like to meet with Charles Woodyard and look forward to your response.</p>	CHA has contacted SEIU Local 73 to propose a compromise.

6	Everyln Rodriguez and Christina Velarosa	<p>In light of the end of Hispanic Heritage month, we appreciate the opportunity to support current CHA residents in the Hispanic community. All of our services are fully bilingual. Through our program CHA has a wonderful opportunity to provide services in a positive light in the Latino community. We strongly believe that CHA has an opportunity to impact perception through Plan 2.0 and to use Buen Hogar to spread the message across Latino communities in Chicago. We talk about CHA programs, how to manage properties, tenant selection, tenant requirement, etc. We are in talks with the Owner Excellence Program. Owners can use our workshops to continue their education. We are looking forward to integrating the Buen Hogar program through all CHA departments so that we can continue to assist CHA in Latino communities.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
7	William Scott III	<p>I am here to speak about Learn and Earn. I have a Masters in Administration and Supervision. I've been on the frontline of education for 30 years. Whether it is a leaky faucet or broken window, you nod to a CHA staffer and it is taken care of right on the spot. My idea about youth development is very serious. I would like to see CHA youth at these meetings. When you talk about stakeholders – they live there, go to school there. I would like to hear what they have to say about governance and hot topic issues.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
8	Carol Folkes	<p>I am a resident of Vivian Harsh. Our senior properties really are beautiful. People are not acknowledging the positives of staff. I would like to give credit to those who step up to resolve the problems and issues: Donna Dixon, Virginia Billings and Sondra Harris. We have had issues and they have been worked on and we are very grateful for that. When I was last here, Tim sat with me and worked some things out and I am very appreciative.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment</p>

9	Juliana Gonzalez Crucí	<p>I represent the Latino Policy Forum. I am here to discuss problems with Latino access and inclusion into CHA programs and housing. The Latino community comprises 20% of the population eligible for CHA programs, but participate at about ½ the rate of eligibility. The Latino population is increasing and we know that more than half of Latino households are renters. More than half of those renters are rent burdened. We also know that Latino homeowners have suffered greatly in wealth tied closely to the drop in home values. We would like to see Latino participation increase by about 20%. We encourage CHA to include an executive level staff member to be responsible for the comprehensive Latino marketing plan. We would like to see bilingual CHA regional offices opened in highly concentrated Latino neighborhoods like South Lawndale. We would like you to consider these programs for your MTW plan or any other plan under CHAs purview.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
10	Georgia Curtis	<p>My question is that our LAC and PCR partner together for a strategic plan for Altgeld with the CHA. I want to thank you for coming out to hear our concerns/complaints. At least you all listen. Change can be a great thing and we all have to partner together and get it together.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
11	Willie McGee	<p>I'm speaking on behalf of Altgeld, where I've been a resident all of my life. Currently I am not a resident, but a next door neighbor at Golden Gates. Those murders did not take place in Altgeld. Just so you have an idea of what Altgeld is like – it is a very formative place. It is not as isolated as you think. People come from the surrounding areas. I had a very promising and prominent childhood life there. That's why we speak about it. We don't want that area demolished. We want to save it. It is a presidential area and we want to keep that area. We ask you humbly to work with us. We would appreciate if you would reconsider demolition.</p>	<p>The CHA is looking to improve the Altgeld community into one that is economically diverse with quality housing, retail, jobs and community space so that residents are provided opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency. The CHA is excited to get the planning process underway and work with the residents of Altgeld and their neighbors throughout this process.</p>

12	Robert Davidson	<p>I want to talk about the residents at Lathrop Homes. At the September meeting you responded to people who went to the microphone. My question is how come you respond to them, but not to me. I'm the LAC president over there. You say ultimately Lathrop will be mixed-income. Why are you letting developers and rich people decide Lathrop's fate? Mr. Woodyard I'm glad you remember when I said welcome to stress. I intended for that to stick. We don't need market rate at Lathrop. It's for poor people not rich people. You need to rethink your concept of what you are doing here.</p>	<p>The CHA is looking to improve the Lathrop community into a community that is economically diverse with quality housing, retail, jobs and community space so that residents are provided opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency. The developer was selected to partner with CHA to accomplish that goal.</p>
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